

at pg 1, line 1 of the specification, replace "System and Method for Accessing and Manipulating Time-Based Data" with --System and Method for Accessing and Manipulating Time-Based Data Using Meta-Clip Objects--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 1, 4 and 11 respectively with amended claims 1, 4 and 11, as set out below:

- A Sub B1*
1. [Amended] A method for accessing and manipulating time-based data of at least two differing data types, comprising the steps of:
    - (i) selecting a first time-based data source [storing] comprising a first data type from a selection of available data sources;
    - (ii) positioning a first clip object representing said first time-based data source with respect to a local time line to define a start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing said first time-based data source;
    - (iii) selecting a second time-based data source from said selection of available data sources, said second time-based data source being of a different data type than said first time-based data source;
    - (iv) positioning a second clip object representing said second time-based data source with respect to said local time line to define a start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing said second time-based data source;
    - (v) [repeating any of steps (i) through (iv) as desired;
    - (vi)] creating at least one meta-clip object representing said local time line and [each said clip object] said first and second clip objects positioned relative thereto, said at least one meta-clip object being positionable with respect to a global time line of an edit, distinct from said local time line, such that the start time and duration of each of said first and second clip objects in said at least one meta-clip are re-mapped to said global time line upon said at least one meta-clip being positioned relative to the global time line; and
    - [(vii)] (vi) adding said at least one meta-clip object to said list of available data sources.

- (S)*
- B*
4. [Amended] A method of defining in an NLE system an edit comprising time-based data of at least two differing data types disposed relative to a global time line, comprising the steps of:
- (i) [selecting a first time-based data source storing a first data type from a selection of available data sources;
  - (ii) positioning a clip object representing said first time-based data source with respect to a time line to define a start time and duration for accessing said first time-based data source;
  - (iii) selecting a second time-based data source from said selection of available data sources, said second time-based data source being of a different data type than said first time-based data source;
  - (iv) positioning a clip object representing said second time-based data source with respect to said time line to define a start time and duration for accessing said second time-based data source;
  - (v) repeating any of steps (i) through (iv) as desired;
  - (vi) creating a new meta-clip object representing said time line and each said clip object positioned relative thereto] creating at least one meta-clip object each comprising a respective local time line distinct from the global time line, a first clip object representing a first time-based data source selected from a list of available data sources, and a second clip object representing a second time-based data source selected from the list of available data sources, the second data source being of a different data type than the first data source, the first and second clip objects being positioned relative to the local time line to define a respective start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing each said selected data source;
  - [(vii)] (ii) adding said [new] at least one meta-clip object to said list of available data sources;
  - [(viii)] repeating steps (i) through (vii) as desired;
  - [(ix)] (iii) selecting at least one [meta-clip object] of the meta-clip objects from said list of available data sources and positioning said at least one selected meta-clip object with respect to [a] the global time line [of an edit]; and
  - [(x)] re-mapping the start time and duration of each clip object represented by said at least one meta-clip from the time line of said at least one meta-clip object to said global time line

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X according to the position of said at least one meta-clip object with respect to said global time line] (iv) re-mapping to the global time line the start time and duration of the clip objects comprising each said selected meta-clip object in accordance with the position of each said selected meta-clip object relative to the global time line.

11. [Amended] A non-linear editing system for creating an edit by accessing and manipulating time-based data of at least two differing data types, comprising:

a storage device to store time-based data sources of at least two different types;  
a computer operatively connected to said storage device to access said time-base data sources stored therein;

at least one output device to display to a user a graphical user interface of an NLE program executed by said computer and to output the result of said edit to said user; and

at least one user input device to receive input for said NLE program from a user, said input being configured to:

(a) [defining the selection of at least two clips, each clip representing a data source, at least one data source being of a different data type than another of said at least two clips;

(b) defining the positioning of each said clip object relative to a time line to define a start time and duration relative to the local time line for each represented data source;

(c) creating and storing a meta-clip object to represent the selection and positioning of said clips relative to said time line] create with the computer at least one meta-clip object each comprising a respective local time line, a first object representing a first one of the stored data sources, a second object representing a second one of the stored data sources, the second data source being of a different data type than the first data source, the clip objects being positioned relative to the local time line to define a respective start time and duration relative to the local time line for accessing each said data source;

[(d) defining the selection of a stored meta-clip object;] (b) select with the computer at least one of the meta-clip objects; and

[(e) defining] (c) define with the computer the positioning of each said selected meta-clip object relative to a global time line[; and